

25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Wednesday, 8th October, 1980 — Kick-off 7.30 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- DONCASTER ROVERS

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MY POINT OF VIEW

A WARM welcome to Billy Bremner and his Doncaster Rovers side, who are currently in the Fourth Division's leading group and looking very strong

indeed. They lost at home on Saturday to Lincoln City, but their away form has been top class, so we will certainly have our work cut out tonight.

Rochdale Disaster

After our fine 4-1 win over Halifax, our game at Spotland turned out to be nothing short of disaster. It was most certainly "after the Lord Mayor's Show" and it was in my opinion our worst ever game in League Football. Take away two or three half decent performances and there was very little left. Sometimes I get upset at unfair criticisms, but, in this instance, I feel we have a case to

answer, and believe me, we will have to work very hard to see it doesn't happen again.

Transfer Request

By the time you read these notes, you will have read in the Press that ever-present Tommy Gore has asked for a move, and his request has been granted. Tommy is not willing to play in a position which I feel best suits the needs of Wigan Athletic, and one that proved so successful last year.

Hoping for better things, tonight.

Ian McNeill

Front page photo — Bob Ward has to be on his toes to thwart Rochdale's striker Mark Hilditch. (Photograph by courtesy of The Rochdale Observer)

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GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

TODAY'S personality in the column is still working very hard for the club, but is, nevertheless, a "great name from the past" when one remembers his playing career with Latics and a host of other clubs. He is Duncan Colquhoun, former outside right and now working with the club voluntarily as physiotherapist.

Dunc is as popular with today's players as he was with his team-mates when he joined that great Latics team which Charlie Spencer had formed.

Dunc was on trial with Hibernian, when he was told that Wigan Athletic were interested in him. He came down to Springfield Park and was offered a month's trial. He refused and according to Dunc: "I was on my way out of the door, when I met the club centre half, a lad by the name of Hancock with whom I had been at Millwall. He asked what

was going on, and, when I told him, he went in to see Charlie Spencer. I don't know what he said, but the manager then came out of his office and offered me a contract."

He stayed at Latics for a few seasons before club financial problems at the time forced his transfer to Bristol City. He then went to Southport and moved on to Bradford City, in 1939; on the same day that war broke out, although Dunc denies his move had anything to do with that!

When the war started League Football was temporarily disrupted, and during the next six years Dunc guested for a number of clubs in friendly matches.

In the meantime Dunc met and married his wife, Molly, a local Cotton Queen, and he returned to Latics after the war as trainer-coach to the team that won the Lancashire Combination Championship.

He has also been manager at Latics for a short time, taking over the reins early in 1970 before the arrival of Gordon Milne. In fact, in his 45 years with the club, Dunc admits: "I have done a bit of everything."

When his full-time professional playing career ended, Dunc, who lives at Pemberton, joined Heinz at Kitt Green and he worked there for 32 years until his retirement earlier this year.



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by Fred Eyre

ALTHOUGH we suffered a defeat when we visited Shrewsbury Town for the first time last week, under the circumstances there were one or two pleasing features.

Before we knew what had hit us, we found ourselves 0-3 down after twenty minutes, as a very bright Shrewsbury side really zipped the ball about and punished us severely for three sloppy mistakes.

We managed to hold on until half time, when the break gave us a chance to sort a few things out and hopefully do better in the second half.

The second half was where the "pleasing features" showed themselves. I introduced substitute Willie Gray, a young colt of a

central defender at half time in a hope of combating their aerial supremacy of the first half, and the Scottish youngster did not let me down.

Maurice Whittle showed his return to fitness by setting a fine example, and assisted by Pop Freeman, the two of them made their presence felt as we gradually clawed our way back into the game.

A super headed goal from Jim Oliver was followed by a classic Davie Glenn effort, as he latched on to a perfect through ball from George McAllister to make the score 2-3.

Up to this point we had got what we deserved, because much character and extra effort had been put in to get us back in with a chance, and it seemed we were set for a well-earned point at least, as we battered away at the Shrewsbury goal. Unfortunately, it was not to be. Goalkeeper Alan Harrison, a little rusty after not playing for many months due to the form of John Brown and Bob Ward, dithered over a cross and the ball barely had enough pace to cross the line for a sickening final goal, which put the game beyond our reach.

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I PROMISED in the last issue of our programme that I would write more of our plans to raise funds for the Springfield Park Community Sports Facility. I am pleased to let you know that we are actively working at ways and means of financing this exciting new project.

Pride of place must go to the Chairman's initiative in deciding to launch a series of Sportmen's Dinners. The first of these special occasions will take place at Tiffany's on Thursday, November 20th, 1980, when comedian Ivor Davies will provide the laughs for our "Tribute to Bill Shankly Night", with "Shanks" and his good friend, Bobby Charlton, adding their own anecdotes and reminiscences for good measure. A good meal, good company, and lively repartee should make this evening the bargain of the year at a cost of £10. per person. Black ties will be worn! Club President Mr Arthur Horrocks is currently involved with setting up the evening with the Tiffany's management, and tickets should be obtainable from the Commercial Department during normal office hours from Monday, 13th October. Each table will seat ten diners, so any local business organisation planning to organise a special night out for its staff is asked to make an early decision about booking. All cheques should be made payable to the Wigan Athletic Football Club Limited and be endorsed with the name of the company or individual in whose name the

booking is made.

Lack of space prevents me from going on at length about other special events in the offing, but in Saturday's programme, I intend to give details of the Commercial Department's "Supporters' Night Out", to be held on Wednesday, 19th November, and the "Christmas Cracker Draw 1980". Don't miss our next instalment! I am delighted to draw the attention of our supporters to the sponsoring of tonight's game by Dingle Belles, of Parliament Street, UpHolland (Telephone 962-624444), Car Accessory Shop of the Year. Specialists in Exhaust Systems, you can save pounds by buying from Dingle Belles. For all your motoring needs, pay an early visit to their premises at UpHolland, St. Helens and, in the near future, Ormskirk. We are also pleased to acknowledge the donation of tonight's match ball by J. Fairhurst & Son, Solid Fuel Suppliers and Haulage and Coach Operators. This reliable family firm operating from 368, Warrington Road, Goose Green, Wigan, (Telephone Wigan 42185), will treat all your enquiries with the efficiency which they have shown in providing coach transport for our second team.

Enjoy tonight's game,

Jack Sudworth Commercial Manager.



Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 6th October, 1980.

Dear Readers,

For the first time I find that we have attracted no contributor to our Letterbox feature, so, this issue, I hope you will excuse a personal expression of opinion.

It was brought to my notice that, following the defeat at Mansfield, one of our players came in for quite a verbal going-over by fans wishing to make him aware of their feelings. Last Saturday, at Rochdale, it was my turn to take some stick after the game. After several challenging statements, I was forced to inform the supporters involved, that, as an employee of the club, I could not offer a comment.

I am sure I can speak for Eric Jones, Ian McNeill, as well as myself, when I declare that we are all prepared, **at the right time**, to discuss the operations for which we have accepted responsibility — administration, team and commercial activities respectively. Talking to us, you may agree or disagree with our points of view, but do not expect us to accept verbal assaults on individual staff members employed by the club, whatever your own personal feelings and disappointments. At the end of the day, Eric, Ian and myself are answerable to the Directors who bear the overall responsibility for the club's welfare and its day-by-day operations. So, please, next time you feel like voicing your opinion, don't take it out on employees who cannot be expected to comment, but tackle the "Head of Department" concerned. If you still cannot obtain satisfaction, no one can deny you the right, as paying customers, to take your complaint right to the top, but, on the way, **do be prepared to listen to reason**. Whatever the issue, it is not always possible to categorise items quite simply as "black" or "white", or to be quite as positive in taking action as you might sometimes think.

Meanwhile, please support your team and this feature,

All best wishes,
Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.

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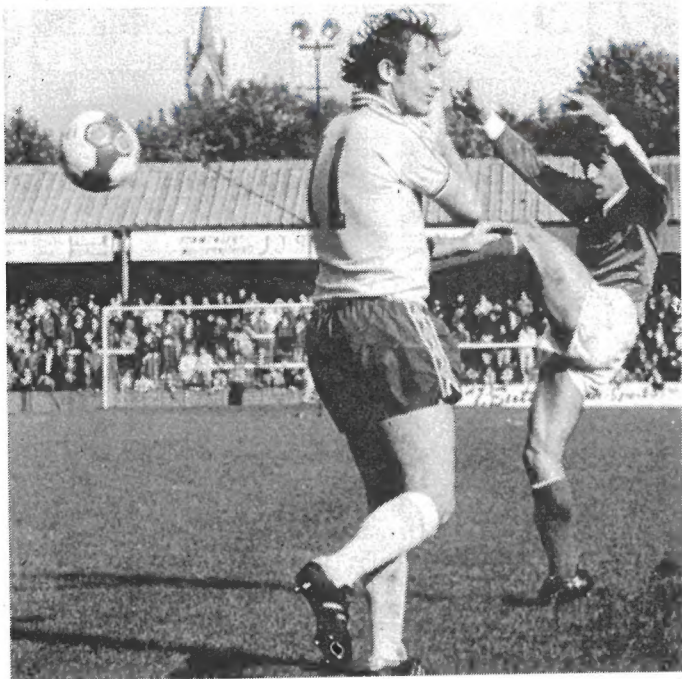
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PHOTOFILE



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(Photographs by courtesy
of The Rochdale Observer).

Left:
Bob Ward is at full
stretch to deal with the
high flying challenge
of Brian Taylor.

Top Right:
Frank Corrigan takes
evasive action as
Rochdale's Eugene
Martinez high kicks.

Bottom Right:
As Barry Wellings puts
them under pressure,
the anxiety shows on
the faces of Bob Ward
and Jeff Wright.



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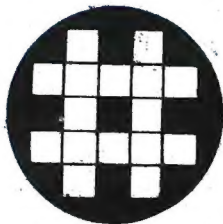


PASTIME-FUNTIME

ON THE BALL No. 8

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

Statistical chart; European --- Cup (now UEFA Cup); Bannister, maybe; Fancy touch?



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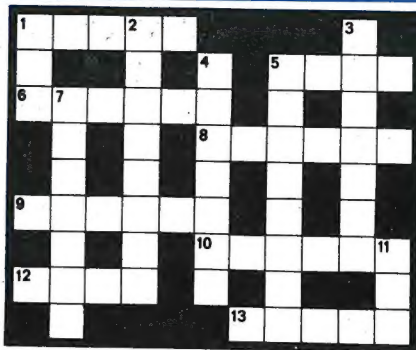
CLUB CLUE No. 8

Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side:

At this spot there's a means of crossing the river.

MIXED DOUBLES No. 8

Rearrange the letters in each of the words **BROGAN** and **HUSTLER** to find the names of two Irish clubs.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 8 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

1. League of Ireland side (5)
5. Luton's 'player of the season' last term (4)
6. A Brighton summer signing from Swindon (6)
8. Arsenal's admiral? (6)
9. It marks one end of the pitch (2-4)
10. Wales Under-23 midfielder who served Swansea, Derby and Bradford Park Avenue before clocking up more than 300 matches for Chester (6)
12. Stein, say (4)
13. Leeds bought him from Burnley three years ago (5)

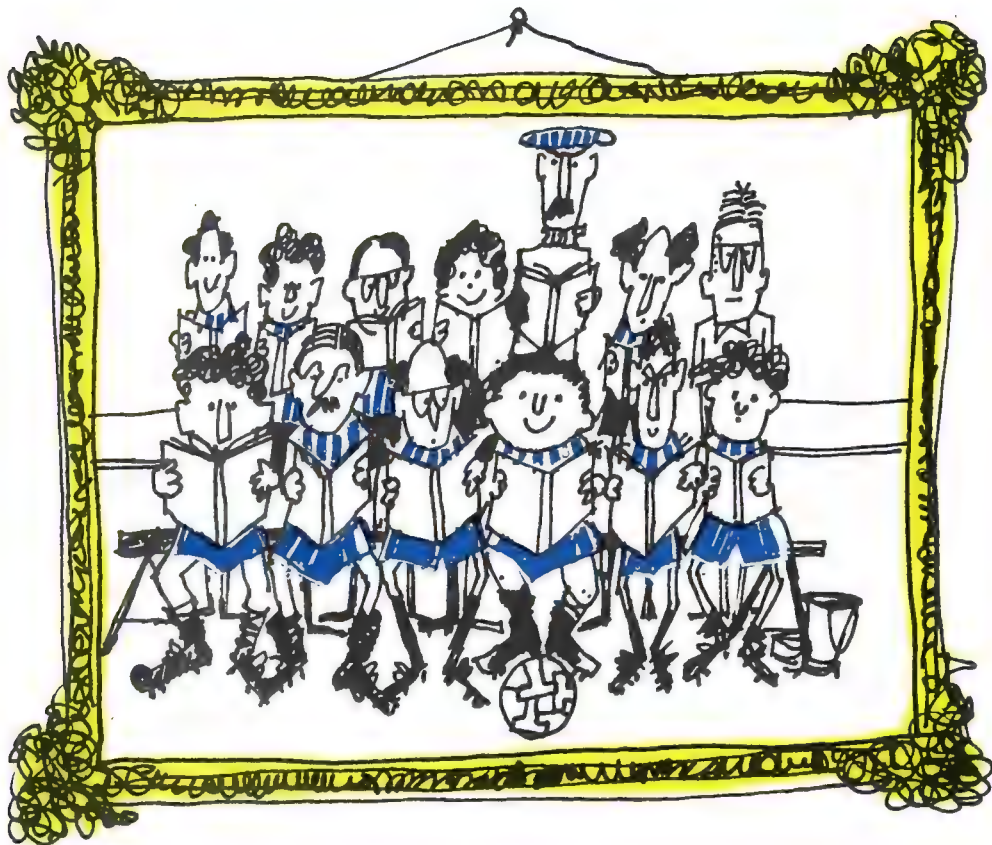
DOWN

1. Ellis, for example (3)
2. One of the things that can happen after the ball has crossed 9ac (4-4)
3. Former Chesterfield and West Bromwich Albion keeper (7)
4. Former Manchester City midfielder who was McMenemy's predecessor as manager of Grimsby (7)
5. London club (8)
- 11 & 7. Wing-half who spent around twenty years at Blackburn and captained England several times (3, 7)

1980/81 series
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Answers on Page 22.





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OUR VISITORS



DONCASTER ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB — 1980-1981 (Left to Right) **Back Row:** Shaun Flanagan, Stewart Mell, Alan Warboys, Willie Boyd, Pat Lally, Billy Russell, Steve Daniels. **Middle Row:** Gerry Delahunt (Physiotherapist), Cyril Knowles (Coach), Alan Little, Steve Lister, Mark Shipley, John Dowie, Dave Bradley, Billy Bremner (Manager), Dave Bentley (Coach). **Front Row:** Glynn Snodin, Daral Pugh, Hugh Dowd, Ian Nimmo, Mick Bates.

ANYONE who witnessed Doncaster Rovers' very competent display at Springfield Park, last April, will not be surprised by the Belle Vue side's fine start to the current season. Among the front-runners for promotion to the Third Division, the Yorkshire lads have already produced several good results. Under the guiding hand of such an experienced campaigner as Billy Bremner, the ex-Leeds United and Scotland star, the "Rovers" can be expected to work hard and compete for every vital league point at stake. Certainly, tonight's game is likely to be a most testing occasion for a Wigan Athletic side still looking to string together a series of successful results. The support currently enjoyed by Doncaster Rovers is indeed most welcome. Almost 10,000 spectators witnessed a recent league game, and, should only one-tenth of their supporters make the journey to Wigan tonight, we have every prospect of attracting our highest league "gate" of the season. We hope that the fare served up by both teams will be a credit to their clubs and

produce lively and exciting entertainment.

To directors, management, staff and supporters of the Doncaster Rovers Football Club, we extend a warm welcome. We trust you will enjoy your visit to Springfield Park and wish you a safe journey home tonight, across the Pennines.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

SEASON 1978-1979

14th Oct. 1978 Wigan Ath 1 Doncaster Rvrs 0
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 5,788
Scorers: Wigan Ath: Noel Ward
Doncaster Rvrs: —
24th Feb. 1979 Doncaster Rvrs 0 Wigan Ath 1
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 4,612
Scorers: Doncaster Rvrs: —
Wigan Ath: Wright

SEASON 1979-1980

13th Oct. 1979 Doncaster Rvrs 3 Wigan Ath 1
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 4,169
Scorers: Doncaster Rvrs:
Snodin, Lewis, Nimmo
Wigan Ath: McIvor
30th Apr. 1980 Wigan Ath 0 Doncaster Rvrs 0
H.T. Score 0-0 Att. 4,740
Scorers: Wigan Ath: —
Doncaster Rvrs: —

DONCASTER ROVERS

PEN PICTURES

MICK BATES — Doncaster. Better connections with Doncaster than Leeds United side, Mick Bates joined Doncaster for the great John Bremner. Joined Rovers in 1980, having previously played for Walsall and Bradford City. Signed from Leeds before the departure of Bolton Wanderers in 1979. A former Scottish international and schoolboy. He made his debut for the Club at Peterborough. **STEVE DANIELS** — Leeds. A youngster in midfield, Steve made his debut for Walsall on Boxing Day, signed professional before. Still only 18, left full back.

HUGH DOWD — Lurgan. Hugh was signed by Doncaster on Wednesday in August for £15,000. A Northern Ireland international, Hugh has made his debut for the Club during last season. He has made several appearances for Sheffield United before joining Rovers. He scored his first goal for Rovers at Sheffield United in 1979.

JOHN DOWIE — Manchester. In the summer of 1979, John Dowie, a skilled midfielder, joined the Club in the transfer from Sheffield United. Previously with Fulham and Glasgow. Like several other players, John is also a former international and Youth International player.

DAVE HARLE — Manchester. In 1977, Dave made his debut for Doncaster.

Ground: Belle Vue Ground, Doncaster.
Year Formed: 1879
Football League Record:
1901 and 1904 Members of Division Two
1923-1935 Members of Division Three (North)
1935-1950 Division Two or Division Three (North)
1950-1958 Members of Division Two
1958-1980 Division Three or Division Four



Midfield — Born in Revie's successful Mick was understudy any Giles and Billy in the summer of previously played for d City.

Goalkeeper — Born m Hull City shortly of Dennis Peacock to March, 1980. Willie Youth International ade his debut for the n in March, 1980.

Defender — Born who can play in e his debut against Day, 1979, having forms the month he normally plays at

Defender — Born gned from Sheffield st, 1979, for a fee of rthern Ireland ecame skipper of the rm. He made 110 heffield Wednesday and scored his first Crewe in October,

Midfield — Signed from Celtic, John is a who scored his first e League Cup match in August, 1979. m, John was born in ral of the Rovers a former Schoolboy nal.

Midfield — Still only but for Rovers as an

apprentice in the League match at Port Vale at the end of last season. He is a solid midfield player with great potential.

PAT LALLY — **Midfield** — Pat was signed from Swansea City for £15,000 in the summer of 1978 and was voted "player of the year" in 1979. Born Paddington. He has played for several Clubs including Millwall, York and Aldershot making 224 appearances in all, before joining Rovers.

STEVE LISTER — **Midfield** — Signed as an apprentice in 1978, Steve signed professional forms in 1979. Still only 18, he has played in attack and defence, scoring 12 goals for the Club last term. Born Doncaster, Steve is a player who attracted interest from most of the big clubs during the course of last term.

ALAN LITTLE — **Midfield** — Born Co. Durham. The Clubs record signing made from Barnsley for £25,000 in December, 1979, Alan made over 200 League appearances for Southend and Barnsley prior to joining Rovers. He scored his first goal for Rovers against Huddersfield at the turn of the year.

STEWART MELL — **Forward** — Born Doncaster, Stewart made his debut for Rovers in 1979 as a non-contract and later signed full professional forms for the



Club. Last term he scored twice in eight full League appearances. Stewart's former Club was non-league side Appleby Frodingham.

IAN NIMMO — **Striker** — Born Boston. Also signed from Sheffield Wednesday in the summer of 1979, Ian is a hard working forward who rarely gets the credit he deserves. He was the Club's top scorer last season with 14 goals over all. Ian also scored goals in limited appearances for

Peterborough United and Sheffield Wednesday.

DARAL PUGH — **Striker** — Born Crynant. Signed as an apprentice in August, 1977, Daral signed professional forms in December, 1978, and has been a first team choice ever since. Should be in line for Welsh under-21 honours soon. Daral scored 5 League goals last term and has now made over 50 appearances for the Club.

BILLY RUSSELL — **Defender** — Signed in the summer of 1979 from Celtic, Billy was the regular right back in the side last season. He was previously with Everton as an apprentice. Billy is a Scotland Youth and Schoolboy International and also appeared in a Youth Cup Final for Everton when they lost narrowly to Crystal Palace two years ago.

GLYNN SNODIN — **Forward** — Born Thrybergh, Glynn made his debut at the age of 17 in 1977, having progressed



through the junior ranks. Glynn can play at full back or midfield and has attracted interest from several First Division Clubs with his stylish play.

IAN SNODIN — **Midfield** — Born Thrybergh. Only 17 in August, 1980, Ian made his debut for the Club against Bournemouth in March, 1980. Scored his first goal for Rovers in a 1-1 draw at Aldershot in April. Ian is, of course, the younger brother of Glynn.

ALAN WARBOYS — **Striker** — Born Goldthorpe. Signed from Hull City during the close season. Previous Clubs were Doncaster Rovers, Sheffield Wednesday, Cardiff City, Sheffield United and Bristol Rovers, the latter of whom he made well over 100 League appearances for. Voted Rovers' "player of the year" last term, Alan scored 11 League goals.

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PLAYER

Jeffrey Kenneth Wright,
(Midfield)

Birthplace: Alston, Cumbria

Place of Residence: Appley Bridge,
Nr. Wigan

Date of Birth: 23rd June, 1952

Height: 5'11 1/2"

Previous Clubs: Tow Law Town
and Netherfield

Advice to Youngsters: Work hard
and train hard. Try to develop your
ball skills and knowledge of the
game.

Jeff made his debut in League
Football for Wigan Athletic at
Hereford on Saturday, 19th August,
1978. He has since played in every
league game since Wigan's entry
into the league and has made 102
Football League appearances to
date.



Photo by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter.

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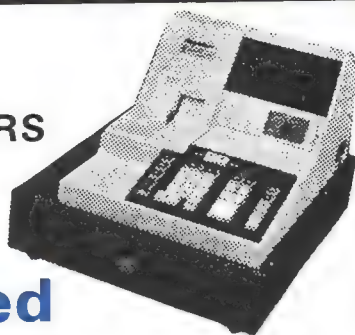
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WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST

A VERY good evening to our many members and friends, and again from the Staff and Committee at the Club, - welcome to Springfield Park.

We had a telephone call a few days ago from Liverpool A.F.C. Supporters Club, inviting our quiz-team to play a challenge match at Anfield, with a view to a return game at Springfield Park in a few weeks time. I am delighted to say that Michael Moss, the originator of our great run in the Radio Manchester Quiz, accepted the challenge. The date has been arranged at Anfield for Friday, October 17th, at 8.30 p.m. It was incredible to listen to the questions the 'memory-men' had to answer on their way through the Rothmans contest. Would you know which present Fourth Division team were beaten in the 1961-1962 League Cup Final? That was just a typical teaser.

On Thursday evening, the 27th November, we have arranged a full evening's entertainment by the Wigan Metropolitan Youth Brass Band. I have mentioned before in our programme notes, that both the stage and brass bands are leaving in February, 1981, for a tour of the U.S.A. We have heard, and probably you have heard, very good reports of the students' band performances, from a

variety of venues in and around Wigan. Tickets will be available by early next week, and we hope we can count on your support, as the aim is to donate to the Education Authorities' Tour Fund.

More details later, and also of another big night out in the club around mid-November, to be promoted by our friends from the Commercial Department.

Your sincerely,

Peter Woods.



WHILE the freedom of contract would appear to be causing problems for some players, at least one Fourth Division club is benefitting from a dispute between one star and his club. Unable to agree terms with his club, Sunderland, Barry Sdall last week agreed to a loan move to neighbours Darlington and kept a clean sheet in the Quakers' win at Hereford. Incidentally, a lot of people have been puzzled by the virtual disappearance of the loan system. In fact, only 'keepers are now allowed to take part in such a deal.

Having had Roy McFarland, Mike Docherty and, reportedly, Ian Greaves turn down the manager's job at Tranmere, the Rovers board last Thursday appointed former Everton star Bryan Hamilton to replace former boss Johnny King. An Irish international, Hamilton, with 50 caps to his name, couldn't have wished for a better start to his managerial career as his side beat Wimbledon the very next day 3-0.

Still on the managerial front, Northampton Town, having a nightmare season, have brought former manager Bill Dodgin back from Brentford in a bid to resolve the club's results crisis. Dodgin

takes over as manager from Clive Walker who reverts to trainer-coach at his own request.

Bradford City have taken the unusual step of appointing a teenager as their captain. Promising centre back, Peter Jackson, who is only 19, took over his duties last weekend in the 2-2 draw with Crewe Alexandra. Bottom side Halifax Town, desperate to add some firepower to their blunted attack, tried to sign Walsall striker Steve Waddington. Once again manager George Kirby's efforts ended in failure, when the player rejected the move to The Shay.

While attendances continue to go up and down like a yo-yo, it seems Doncaster Rovers have set the Division Four standard. Last weekend their game with leaders Lincoln City attracted a season's high of 9,693. Sadly for their manager Billy Bremner, announced the division's manager of the month only hours earlier, his side failed to produce the goods and were beaten by an 83rd minute Gordon Hobson goal.

Leading scorers to date: 11-Cooke (Peterborough United), 10-Lumby (Tranmere Rovers), 9-Harford (Lincoln City), 8-Brodie (Aldershot) Johnson (Bury).



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SCENE & HEARD

WE HAVE recently received a letter from Mr. Gordon Pearce, the founder-organiser of "The Ninety-Two Club", informing us that in June, 1978, the club was formed to recognise the achievement of anyone connected with soccer who has attended each of the ninety-two Football League grounds for first team matches. An "associate" member category was created for those football followers who had already completed more than seventy visits and intended to complete their remaining visits in the foreseeable future.

One such follower, Chris. Mills, of 179 Ross Road, South Norwood, London SE25 6TN, visited Wigan on the 20th September, 1980, to watch the Wigan Athletic -v- Bury game, thus becoming the 105th member of the club to visit his 92nd ground. We wish to place on record our admiration for the persistence shown by Chris. Mills in achieving his objective. Any Wigan Athletic supporter interested in joining "The Ninety-Two Club", is asked to contact Gordon Pearce at 104 Gilda Crescent, Whitechurch, Bristol BS14 9LD.

At the beginning of September, we summarised the early results from seasons 1978-1979, 1979-1980 and the current season. In response to several requests from fans wishing to keep abreast of the up-to-date

comparative figures, we supply the following details,
Season 1978-1979—After ten games: won three, drawn one, lost six, for nine goals, against fourteen goals, seven points, League Position eighteenth.

Season 1979-1980—After ten games: won four, drawn one, lost five, for seventeen goals, against twenty goals, nine points, League Position fifteenth.

Season 1980-1981—After ten games: won five, drawn none, lost five, for eleven goals, against sixteen goals, ten points, League Position seventeenth.

Consequently, in spite of our early disappointments, we are already one point better off than last season at the same stage. With one game in hand over all other clubs but Northampton Town, it could be argued that, had that game been played and won, our team would be occupying seventh position in the current league table.

We are pleased to draw the attention of our supporters to the fact that the week 11th-18th October, has been designated "National Foster Care Week". The Wigan Athletic Football Club has promised the National Foster Care Association space in next Saturday's match programme for an advertisement and a collection will also be taken on behalf of the Association at the Peterborough United game. Please give generously in support of this worthy organisation.

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LATICS AWAY

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18th OCTOBER, 1980.
KICK-OFF 7.30 p.m.**

Football League Division Four

TORQUAY UNITED

-v-

WIGAN ATHLETIC

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THANK YOU

On behalf of the League of Hospital Friends, we would like to thank the numerous fans who offered their services as commentators. Enough people have volunteered to ensure a good service to hospital patients, when the G.P.O. eventually install the necessary telephone line.

Supporters will be kept informed of any developments as and when they occur.

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The Chairman's Column

I AM delighted to welcome the Doncaster Rovers Football Club to Springfield Park tonight. I am particularly looking forward to meeting my old friend Tony Phillips, with whom I have spent many happy hours. Our game against Billy Bremner's side could be one of our most difficult of the season.

I cannot let the game at Rochdale go by without stating that, never again, do I wish to sit through a game like that at Spotland last Saturday. The display was totally unacceptable. Quite frankly, the difference was that Rochdale wanted to win the game, whereas we didn't just seem to care. I was quite disgusted and thoroughly ashamed at the performance. When I think of the size of our professional playing staff and the size of our weekly wage bill, and what we are getting in return - it is just not on! No one can expect to win every time, but to lose three goals at Darlington, Mansfield and Rochdale, and to only scrape home by a last minute goal at Halifax, not to mention the lack of fight and effort displayed by some of our players, leaves us with a very disturbing state of affairs.

I feel sorry for our supporters, all good, honest, hard-working people, who, after a full week's hard graft, look forward to a little bit of pleasure from their weekend's football. They are not getting value for money; we are not giving them a fair deal; and they deserve better.

I feel sorry for my directors, and our hard-pressed Commercial Department, who are all working very hard to bridge the massive deficiency between what the players' end product brings in at the "gate" and what it actually costs to keep the club viable.

I feel sorry for Ian McNeill - he deserves better too. I find him a one hundred per cent players' man. He argues for them, he protects them, he fights for wage increases for them, he seeks trips abroad for them to the sun, - well, Ian, you are getting your loyalty and efforts thrown right back into your face. A few of the players are giving very little in return; it seems to be a joy-ride.

I get no pleasure out of writing this way, but, quite honestly, I have had enough, the joy-ride is over, and I am spelling out my message to the players that I have always believed in a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. If players want the rewards that their privileged life-style affords them, they must at the very least, show that they are prepared to give the effort required. I am looking, from this moment on, for a very big improvement in attitude and results.

I hope we will all be able to enjoy tonight's game.

Yours sincerely,

Freddie Pye

Freddie Pye.

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TEAMS

Wigan Athletic

(Royal Blue & White Stripes)

Bob Ward	1	Willie Boyd
John Curtis	2	Billy Russell
Brian Kettle	3	John Dowie
Dave McMullan	4	Steve Lister
Colin Methven	5	David Harle
Neil Davids	6	John Saunders
George Urquhart	7	Daral Pugh
Jeff Wright	8	Ian Nimmo
Bobby Hutchinson	9	Alan Warboys
Mike Quinn	10	Glynn Snodin
Frank Corrigan	11	Alan Little
Peter Houghton	12	Ian Snodin

Doncaster Rovers

(Green/White)

OFFICIALS

Referee:

ALEX J. HAMIL

(Wolverhampton)

Commenced refereeing in 1959 and via local leagues, Midland Combination and West Midland League reached the Football League line and full list in 1973. Refereed the West Midland Cup (1972) and Birmingham Senior Cup (1973) Finals and F.A. Trophy Semi-Final (1978); also Football League Cup Quarter-Final Swindon -v- Arsenal (1980). Lined the Scotland -v- Ireland International in 1976, and Wales -v- Ireland in 1978. Married, and with one son, he is a Senior Foreman in Government Workshops and is interested in training and local football competitions.

Linesmen:

Red Flag

J. A. BIGGAR

(Baguley Hall, Manchester)

Yellow Flag

P. H. WATERS

(Thornton Cleveleys)

HERE NEXT

Saturday, October 11th, 1980.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-
PETERBOROUGH UNITED**

Football League Division 4